

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2644
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2003
TRADE WITH CZECH REPUBLIC
RAM SINGH KASWAN

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the areas in which India and Czech Republic have trade relations at present;
- (b) whether the Czech Republic has shown interest to boost trade with India;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps being taken by the Indian Government in this direction?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY)

(a) Major areas of trade between India and the Czech Republic (CR) are as follows:-

Major exports to CR:

- (i) Cotton yarn;
- (ii) Textiles, garments, linen etc.;
- (iii) Leather, footwear and other leather items;
- (iv) Tea, coffee, rice, spices, groundnuts, etc.;
- (v) Pharmaceuticals;
- (vi) Engineering items.

Major imports from CR: (i) Turbines for power generation;

- (ii) Motor vehicles accessories;
- (iii) Machinery, machine tools and transport equipment;
- (iv) Chemicals and plastic material;
- (v) Seamless steel tubes;
- (vi) crystal, glassware and beads.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) At the Fifth Session of the Indo-Czech Joint Committee on Trade and Economic Cooperation, co-chaired by Commerce Secretary and Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade of CR in Prague in October 2002, both sides expressed their determination to further increase and diversify trade on a mutually beneficial and balanced basis. Indian side highlighted that there is a need to activate efforts to increase exports in non-traditional/emerging/niche product groups such as engineering items; software/information technology; electro-technic and electronics; plastics; packaging; chemicals; pharmaceuticals; medical equipment and food processing etc. The Czech side suggested more possibilities for exports of machine tools, textile, tannery and shoes making machines, printing presses, measuring and control equipment, etc.

(d) The Indian Government has taken a number of steps to boost level of trade with the CR. These include providing prompt information and assistance to Indian as well as Czech companies; disseminating trade related information through apex trade and industry organisations, Export Promotion Councils and other relevant bodies; exchange of business delegations; encouraging Indian companies to participate in major trade fairs in CR and vice versa; organising business seminars; and discussing ways and means to further increase bilateral trade during the sessions of Indo-Czech Joint Committee on Trade and Economic Cooperation and other high level meetings/visits.